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March 11, 2016

Office of the Secretary  
Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue NW  
Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268-0001

**Re: NOTICE OF APPEAL AND REQUEST FOR  
REVIEW OF WESTBROOKVILLE, NY POST OFFICE CLOSURE**

To Whom It May Concern:

I am submitting herewith a letter of appeal to the Commission from a boxholder of the Westbrookville Post Office, Marlene Roe requesting review of the determination to close the Westbrookville Post Office, as well as a Petition signed by 340 Westbrookville boxholders indicating their opposition to the closure of this facility.

It is respectfully requested that the postal facility in Westbrookville, New York remain open pending review of this particular closing, and that the determination to close this site be reversed.

Thank you for your attention.

Very truly yours,

MARCELLE MATTHEWS, ESQ.

MM/mb

**NOTICE OF APPEAL AND REQUEST FOR REVIEW**  
**OF THE WESTBROOKVILLE, NY POST OFFICE CLOSURE**

- 1) I am **MARLENE ROE**. I reside at Pine Kill Road, P.O. Box 422, Westbrookville, New York 12785, Town of Mamakating, Sullivan County. I am and have been a Westbrookville boxholder for over thirty years. The Post Office has been in this community for over 100 years.
- 2) There are 485 boxholders at the Westbrookville facility. There is no rural delivery. The vast majority of those boxes represent families, as well as businesses with employees, who utilize the Westbrookville services so that the actual number of persons effected by the decision to close Westbrookville modestly triples to an estimated 1,455 or more.
- 3) Westbrookville is rural in nature and many of the "roads" leading into the mountains are not paved, not maintained, and narrow to muddy trails most of the year. Individuals and businesses rely upon the Westbrookville postal location to receive and send out mail, packages, and money orders and to maintain a sense of community. Many of our residents are elderly and do not travel far from home. Rural delivery, even if offered, would be dangerous and costly. It also would not provide the services these residents rely upon.
- 4) The Westbrookville Post Office is situate upon a highly visible, well maintained, and easily accessible site with ample parking. There is plenty of safe parking and the store which is located at the same site allows for convenience to boxholders to accomplish many tasks in one stop. There is no reasonable and safe alternative location.
- 5) We have additional available boxes to accommodate future growth. We have people interested in being the contract Post Master at the present budget. The cost of operations at the Westbrookville site are dramatically less than other facilities that do not have as much safe parking to accommodate our residents. It is not safe for residents to park along a narrow two-lane highway shoulder to access an alternate facility. In addition, another facility will incur increased costs well beyond my contract budget to try to accommodate the Westbrookville customers and community. Such increased costs will be incurred for more staff, more parking, facility build-out, insurance and utilities, to name a few.
- 6) I am also the retiring Post Master at this location and gave notice six (6) months ago of my impending retirement March 31, 2016 after thirty years of service. Despite efforts to ascertain the intentions of the USPS with respect to my replacement, it was not until February 18, 2016 that a Notice of Determination of Closure was posted and put into each mail box. No questionnaire had been circulated. No public comment period had been offered. No sixty (60) day notice had been provided. It is my position that the residents of Westbrookville and boxholders at the subject location, should have at least been afforded the same opportunity to be heard as to the impact the closure would have upon them their families, their businesses, and this community as citizens of federally operated facilities would have had. There is no reasonable justification for the disparity in treatment of similarly situated citizens, customers and taxpayers.
- 7) Given the number of boxholders at the Westbrookville site, the rural nature of the area, the desirability of the existing site, and community need for continued U.S. Postal Service, it is requested that the Westbrookville site remain open, that it remain open pending review, and that at least the regulations and procedures governing Post Office closures for federally operated facilities be applied to Contract Post Offices (CPOs) for equal protection of all citizens. Therefore, I am seeking that the determination of closure of the Westbrookville Post Office be reversed.

Dated: March 11, 2016

Respectfully submitted,

  
**MARLENE ROE**